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TÜRKİYE BİLİMLER AKADEMİSİ  
TURKISH ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

## Conference Booklet



International Conference on

# iNCLUSION in the Heritage Sector

Upskilling HED Students to create  
transformative cultural experiences for  
audiences with disabilities

January 10, 2026

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## PROGRAM

January 10, 2026, Saturday

**09:00-09:30 Opening Session**

Prof. Dr. Mehmet Naci İnci - *Bogaziçi University - Rector*

Prof. Dr. Muzafer Şeker - *TÜBA President*

H. E. M. Fatih Kacır - *Ministry of Industry and Technology (TBC)*

**09:30-11:00 Keynote Speakers**

**Moderator:** Assoc. Prof. Dr. Kevser Çınar -

*iNCLUSION Project Coordinator-TÜBA*

**Critical Discourses on Inclusion and  
Accessibility in Cultural-Heritage Tourism**

Prof. Dr. Muzafer Uysal - *University of Massachusetts-Amherst*

**From Access to Empowerment:**

**Rethinking Inclusivity in Heritage Through Technology**

Prof. Dr. Faizan Ali - *University of Galway*

**Cultural Heritage and Sensorial and Cognitive Accessibility**

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Enrico Dolza - *Università di Torino*

**Unseen Citizens of Culture: Ageism, Ableism, and the  
Ethics of Inclusion in Türkiye's Performing Arts Heritage**

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ayşe Colins - *Bilkent University*

**Accessibility in Museums and Digital Exhibitions**

Muhammed Taha Türk - *Istinye University*

**11:00-11:30 Coffee Break**

**11:30-13:00 PANEL 1.1. (Albert Long Hall): Rethinking Inclusive Education for Learner Diversity**

Moderator: Prof. Dr. Macid Ayhan Melekoğlu - *Boğaziçi University*

**Equity, Access, and Support in Inclusive Education for Students with Specific Learning Disabilities**

Prof. Dr. Macid Ayhan Melekoğlu – *Boğaziçi University*

**Advancing Inclusion through Technology and Digital Innovation**

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ayşe Dilşad Yakut – *Boğaziçi University*

**Invisible Advantage: Recognizing Gifted Learners within Inclusive Education**

Asst. Prof. Dr. Abdullah Azzam Tüzgen – *Boğaziçi University*

**Beyond Cultural Capital: Community Cultural Wealth as a Framework for Inclusive Education**

Asst. Prof. Dr. Ayşe Çobanoğlu – *Boğaziçi University*

**11:30-13:00 PANEL 1.2. (Kriton Curi Hall): Inclusive Experiences for Deaf and Blind Communities and Disabled Visitors**

Moderator: Dr. Dorothea Papathanasiou - *ArtiFactory*

**Empowering Cultural Access: A Methodological Framework for Engaging Deaf Audiences and Enhancing Social Value in Museums**

Daniel Weiss - *SEALS*

**Look by Hand, See by Heart”: Implementation of the Erasmus+ ToMiMEUs Project at the Hungarian Heritage House**

Boglarka Gal - *Hungarian Heritage House*

**The Intersection of Sign Language and AI for Inclusion: Insights from the EDUSIGN & SIGNEDU Project**

Asst. Prof. Dr. Ülkü Kölemen - *İstinye University*

**The Sensational Museum: Audience Development for Inclusion in the Cultural Heritage Industry**

Dr. Aslı Varol - *Independent Researcher*

**Tactile Tazhib and Calligraphy: Creating an Inclusive Exhibition of Islamic Art for Blind and Visually Impaired Audiences**

Selma Pandzic - *Museum of Islamic Culture and Art*

**11:30-13:00 PANEL 1.3. (John Frelly Hall): Children, Youth, and Autism-Focused Heritage Practices**

Moderator: Prof. Dr. İbrahim Halil Diken - *Anadolu University*

**Making Cultural Heritage Accessible for Individuals with Special Needs**

Prof. Dr. İbrahim Halil Diken - *Anadolu University*

**Bridging Cultural Heritage Elements and Autism: Interactive Artwork Selection and Descriptive Narrative Strategies**

Dr. Ümit Savaş Taşkesen - *Necmettin Erbakan University*

**Accessible Cultural Heritage Education for Individuals with Autism: A Field Study Focusing on Family and Child Experiences**

Dr. Ümit Savaş Taşkesen - *SOBE*

Cemre Gürel - *SOBE*

Şerife İlkaya - *SOBE*

**Accessibility for Individuals with Special Needs in Cultural Heritage Sites: The Case of Türkiye**

Dr. Tezcan Çavuşoğlu- *Kafkas University*

**VEKAM's Cultural Heritage Studies for Children(0-18) Workshop Series**

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Çiğdem Maner - *Koç University*

Özlem Deniz Uğur - *Koç University*

Arzu Beril Kırıcı - *Koç University*

Prof. Dr. Filiz Yenişehirlioğlu - *Koç University*

**11:30-13:00 PANEL 1.4. (Fuaye Hall - Online): Inclusive Education and Accessibility in Cultural Heritage**

Moderator: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mürsel Doğrul - *TÜBA*

**A Collaborative Participatory Experiential Learning Trail for Young Learners: Connecting Schools with Local Cultural Heritage**

Phatcharin Sermsuk - *Mahidol University*

Asst. Prof. Dr. Patoo Cusripituck - *Mahidol University*

**Inclusion in Turkish Higher Education: An Overview of Practices and Research**

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Cemile Doğan - *Necmettin Erbakan University*

Asst. Prof. Dr. Hayriye Ulaş Taraf - *Necmettin Erbakan University*

Asst. Prof. Dr. Şeyma Akın - *Necmettin Erbakan University*

**Application of Universal Design in Learning about Cultural Heritage in School and Museum Environments**

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Anida Manko - *University of Sarajevo*

**An Evaluation of the Zeugma Mosaic Museum in Terms of Universal Design Principles**

Muhammet Sıtkı Özger - *Kilis 7 Aralık University*

Asst. Prof. Dr. Esra Orum Çattık - *Eskişehir Osmangazi University*

**Promoting Accessibility in Cultural Heritage Education: The Moroccan Case**

Meryem Baba - *Ibn Tofail University*

Prof. Dr. Sanae Ghouati - *Ibn Tofail University*

**13:00-14:00 Lunch**

Bogaziçi University - *Kennedy Lodge*

**14:00-15:30 PANEL 2.1. (Albert Long Hall) : Digital Heritage, Gamification & Participation**

Moderator: Dr. Aida Vezic - *Balkan Museum Network*

**Digital Assitive Technology in the Museum: A Tool for Enchancing Accessibility**

Aida Sarac Berbic - *National Gallery of Bosnia and Herzegovina*

**Accessible Gamification and Serious Games Approaches in Cultural Heritage Education: Literature Review 2005–2025**

Dr. Elmas Merve Özyurt - *Mimar Sinan Fine Arts University*

**Digital Accessibility Opportunities in**

Aliyenur Akarsel- *Necmettin Erbakan University*

**Cultural Heritage and Aesthetics in Sensory Memory Gaps**

Necmi Karkin - *İnönü University*

**Accessing Ancient Letter of Alphabet through Card Games**

Asst. Prof. Dr. Putri Khairina Masta - *Indonesia Art Institut of Padangpanjang*

**14:00-15:30 PANEL 2.2. (Kriton Curi Hall): Artificial Intelligence & Emerging Technologies**

Moderator: Daniel Weiss - *SEALS*

**T3AI for Inclusive Heritage: An LLM-Based Chatbot and Learning Analytics Framework Grounded in Universal Design for Learning and Educator Readiness**

Asst. Prof. Dr. Mehmet Akın Bulut - *İbn Haldun University*

**Being a Tourist in the Metaverse: Enhancing Accessibility and Inclusion through Virtual Reality Experiences**

Dr. Osman Nurullah Berk - *Selçuk University*

**Digital Content for Enhancing Disability Awareness:****An Education Intervention Analysis of the 'Farkındalık Sokağı / Awareness Street' Podcast Series**

Nalan Kaya - *Konya Metropolitan Municipality Social Innovation Agency*

Gizem Karagüllü - *Konya Metropolitan Municipality Social Innovation Agency*

**A White Paper Proposal for Ingos Towards Refugees in Türkiye**

Hakan Dulkadiroğlu - *Ankara Yıldırım Beyazıt University*

**14:00-15:30 PANEL 2.3. (John Frelly Hall): Accessibility & Universal Design in Museums**

Moderator: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Enrico Dolza - *Università di Torino*

**Making Museums Inclusive: Lessons from the Balkans**

Dr. Aida Vezic - *Balkan Museum Network*

**Inclusion and accessibility in selected Budapest museums**

Prof. Dr. Tamara Ratz - *Kodolanyi Janos University*

**Multisensory Design in the Context of Universal Design: Sensory and Holistic Space Design for People with Disabilities**

Muhammet Furkan Akbaş - *Mimar Sinan Fine Arts University*

**Towards Accessibility:****Experiences of the Homeland Museum of Knjaževac**

Milena Milošević Micić - *The Homeland Museum of Knjaževac*

**Strengthening the Triangle of EU Türkiye - Kyrgyzstan through Shared Values and Accessibility**

Gulzar Karybekova - *Centre of Actual Problems and Development*

**14:00-15:30 PANEL 2.4. (Fuaye Hall - Online): Engagement, Memory, and Participatory Heritage Practices**

Moderator: Dr. Ümit Savaş Taşkesen - *SOBE*

**Memory Beneath the Cover:**

**The Issue of Exclusion and Inclusivity in Cultural Landscapes**

Feray Karaca - *İzmir Democracy University*

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Hikmet Eldek Güner - *İzmir Democracy University*

**Can Museum Narrative Immersion Influence the Construction of War Memory?**

Cheng Yu-Chen - *National Taiwan Normal University*

**Museum for One: Curatorial Practice, Historical Empathy, and the Experience of the “World in Silence” Exhibition**

Jan Malec Svetel - *National Liberation Museum Maribor - Trafika*

**Rethinking Museum Communication through Affective and Sensory Museology**

Andela Petrovic - *University of Belgrade*

**Inclusive Museums in France: Bridging Accessibility and Cultural Diversity for a Shared Heritage**

Dr. Vera Atanasova - *Bulgaria National Museum of History*

**15:30-16:00 Coffee Break**

**16:00-17:30 PANEL 3.1. (Albert Long Hall): Inclusive Tourism & Sustainable Development & Community Engagement**

Moderator: Prof. Dr. Tamara Ratz - *Kodolanyi Janos University*

**Cultural Heritage for All: Towards Inclusive Tourism through Enhanced Accessibility – The Case of Pelagonija Region**

Dr. Irena Ruzin - *Institute and Museum Bitola*

Prof. Dr. Ivanka Nestoroska - *NI - University St. Kliment Ohridski*

**Community Engagement in Preserving a Malay Weave: Case Study in Kubang Keladi Village, Bachok, Kelantan, Malaysia**

Muhammad Sufi Mu'izzuddin - *University Malaysia Kelantan*

Dr. Daeng Haliza - *University Malaysia Kelantan*

Dr. Suraya Binti Sukri - *University Malaysia Kelantan*



**Sustainable Cultural Tourism in Historical City Centers:  
Integrating Electric Mobility and Pedestrianization within a  
Holistic Public Transportation System – A Göreme Case Study**

Dr. Ömer Devrim Aksoyak - *Abdullah Gül University*

Nader Abou Shahin - *Abdullah Gül University*

**Accessible Interpretation Techniques for  
Visitors with Disabilities at Cultural Heritage Sites**

Asst. Prof. Dr. Özge Çalhan - *İzmir Katip Çelebi University*

**16:00-17:30 PANEL 3.2. (Kriton Curi Hall): Policy, Governance & Open  
Cultural Heritage**

Moderator: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ayşe Colins - *Bilkent University*

**Governing Diversity:  
When Migration Policies Meet Cultural Heritage**

Dr. Leticia Dorsch - *Director of the Chair on Türkiye Studies,  
Universidad Complutense de Madrid*

**Paper-Based Facsimiles as a Tool for Improving Visitor  
Engagement and Experience through Universal Design**

Lou Blackmore - *National Archives (UK)*

**Towards Accessible Cultural Experiences at Zeyrek:  
A Preliminary Needs Analysis**

Prof. Dr. Mine Güven - *Doğuş University*

**Mapping The Research Landscape of Community Kitchens:  
A Bibliometric Analysis of Social Inclusion Perspectives**

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Hülisi Binbaşıoğlu - *İstanbul Medeniyet University*

Selin Görücü - *İstanbul Medeniyet University*

**From Movement to Meaning: The Role of Heritage in  
Belonging, Presence and Migrant (Self) Interpretation**

Svetlana Kondratyeva - *Independent Researcher*

**16:00-17:30 PANEL 3.3. (John Frelly Hall - Online): Inclusive Tourism &  
Sustainable Development & Community Engagement**

Moderator: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mürsel Doğrul - *TÜBA*

**Impact of Socio-Economic Organization Programs in  
Museums on Accessibility in Tourism**

Dr. Fatmir Hoxha - *National Museum of Kosova*

**The Digital Shadow of Empire: Data Sovereignty, Reparative Finance, and the Ethics of Virtual Restitution**

Geoffrey Eboson - *Cyprus International University*

**Impact of Socio-Economic Organization Programs in Museums on Accessibility in Tourism**

Dr. Sara Bini - *Ministry of Culture, Italy*

**Understanding GenZ's Moral Intention to Support Disability-Inclusive Hotels: An Integrated TPB-NAT Approach with Perceived Quality Moderation**

Tazir Chowdhury Mikath - *Social Sciences University of Ankara*

**16:00-17:30 PANEL 3.4. (Fuaye Hall - Online): Intangible and Innovative Approaches to Inclusive Heritage**

Moderator: Dr. Tezcan Çavuşoğlu - *Anadolu University*

**As an Element of Intangible Cultural Heritage; Example Studies on Sustainable Knowledge Dissemination of Traditional Turkish Handicrafts: Cost (Ca-19131) Grant Competition**

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Songül Aral - *İnönü University*

**The Way Forward for Equitable Access to Public Domain Cultural Heritage**

Geoffrey Eboson - *Cyprus International University*

**Soft Interfaces: Sensory and Participatory Approaches to Inclusive Immersive Art**

Emilija Dojcinovic - *Independent Researcher*

**AI-driven Participatory Design: A Proposed Methodology for Innovation Projects**

Klaudia Tvergyak - *Hungarian National Museum*

Debora Ronaszeki - *Hungarian National Museum*

**From Consultation to Collaboration: Evolving Models of Community Engagement in Heritage Institutions**

Dr. Dorina Xheraj-Subashi - *University Aleksander Moisiu*

**17:30-18:00 Coffee Break**

**18:00-19:00 Conclusion Session**

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Kevser Çınar - *iNCLUSION Project Coordinator - TÜBA*

Prof. Dr. Muzaffer Uysal - *University of Massachusetts-Amherst*

Prof. Dr. İbrahim Halil Diken - *Anadolu University*

Prof. Dr. Muzaffer Şeker - *TÜBA President*